Special Issue

Polysaccharides and Polymers

Message from the Guest Editors

Polysaccharides are polydisperse and consist of different molecular weight species and are also non-ideal. Nevertheless, many polysaccharides, such as as -glucans, inulin and pectins from various plants, have attracted attention because of their effects on the immune system. Polysaccharides synthesised by bacteria are functionally different from those of higher plants. These bacterial polysaccharides secreted from the cell to form a surface layer around the organism are believed to have multiple functions. These glucans, alginate-like materials and cellulose materials are utilised in high-value applications in research, pharmaceuticals and healthcare for patients. The aim of this Special Issue is to highlight the development of synthesis, chemical modification, bio-functionalisation, processing and characterisation of polymeric materials designed for biomedical modelling and potential combination with cells and other biologics. The idea behind this is that the polymeric structures of polysaccharides and proteins will be able to precisely mimic anatomical, biological and physiological function with the possibility of providing a level of therapeutic benefit to health.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 4.9.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

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